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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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Enclosure A: Report on the relations between Science and the State  
in East Germany. (7 pages)

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Science and State

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A. Introduction

This paper examines some aspects of the relations between science and state in one satellite, ~~the German Democratic Republic (DDR)~~ <sup>East German</sup> East Germany. It makes particular reference to one body, the DDR Academy of Sciences, to illustrate the points made.

"Science," "scientist" and related words in this paper may be taken as having the force of the German "Wissenschaft" unless qualified by "natural science" - i.e. any body of systematic and formulated knowledge.

2. Scientists in ~~the DDR~~ <sup>East Germany</sup> may be said to have relations with the State at two levels: they come into contact with the State, every day of their lives, as normal citizens of that State and they also come into contact with it by virtue of their profession as scientists. It is not the purpose of this paper to examine the first type of contact; ~~it is perhaps worth remembering however,~~ that every scientist is also a citizen and thus daily sees the slogans in the streets, the official newspapers, the Peoples' Police searching the trains: may hear the official radio or the views of his discussion group secretary: and knows of the economic and security policies of his State through frequent personal experience.

3. Like other scientific organizations, ~~the DDR~~ <sup>East German</sup> Academy of Sciences and its workers are subject to two political powers: Soviet and German.

B. Soviet Control

4. The Soviet Control Commission (SKK) in BERLIN-Karlshorst maintains a ~~liaison officer with the Academy.~~ <sup>This man -</sup> at present one ~~ENOPETIOV~~ <sup>fnu</sup> (ph.) - is always known inside the Academy as the "Russian Control Officer". He visits the Academy irregularly at about fortnightly intervals and there deals normally with the Director, Dr. Josef ~~NAAS~~. He also visits Dr NAAS at his home in BERLIN-Niederschönhausen, Wahnschaffestr. 29.

5. In addition, all Academy plans for new building or other major work must be referred to the SKK, as must the Academy's research plans.

6. The SKK does not merely receive these communications from the Academy for its information: it also acts from time to time upon them. For example, the Academy submitted plans to the SKK for its new Institute (For Nuclear Physics) at MIERSDORF. The SKK ordered that the size of the proposed complex there should be reduced. This was done. Again, the SKK recently sent

1 COPY

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/2...

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representatives to the new building site of the Institute of Medicine and Biology at BERLIN-Buch, to check that the building work corresponded exactly to the [ ] plans.

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**C. German Control****7. Relations with German political authorities.**

- (a) Representatives of the Academy deal with two political entities - the Central Committee of the Party (ZK of the SED) and the Government.
- (b) Frequent meetings in the ZK are attended by Dr. Josef NAAS, Siegfried LANGHANS (his personal assistant) and (Frau) Charlotte THIEL, personnel director.
- (c) For meetings with the Government proper, Minister President Wilhelm PIECK is visited from time to time by Dr. NAAS, President of the Academy. (Prof) Dr. Walter FRIEDRICH, Vice President (Prof) Hans BERTEL, (Prof) Theodor FRINGS, (Prof) Karl LOHMANN and Vice-President Johannes STROUK. (Professor) Kurt NOACK also occasionally attends. The meetings take place in PIECK's castle at BERLIN-Niederschönhausen.
- (d) The difference between ZK and governmental meetings is this: in the ZK, the Academy receives orders and is told what to do and what not to do - the initiative in the conversations comes from the ZK. In the meetings with the Government, on the other hand, the initiative comes from the scientists, who tell PIECK and anyone else who may be present what facilities they need in order to do their work and what they think of this and that.

**8. The Central Committee of the Party**

- (a) **Staff:** Scientific affairs in the ZK appear to be the concern of the Propaganda Department headed by (Prof) Kurt MAGER. In particular, Ernst HOFFMANN [ ] was particularly concerned with Academy affairs until he left the ZK for a political course some weeks ago. His place was then taken by one Kurt MULLER.
- (b) **Control:** All the Academy's plans for new buildings, changes of policy, congresses and visits by its scientists abroad must be submitted to the ZK for approval. Lists of those invited to Academy meetings must also be submitted. This far-reaching control by the Party is not generally known even within the Academy and a member of the HQ staff who said to Siegfried LANGHANS in the presence of a visiting Academy scientist, "Have the names on this list of invitations been approved by the ZK yet?", was severely reprimanded.

50X1-HUM

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/3...

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**9. Research**

Every piece of natural scientific and technical research work in the Academy's Institutes is ultimately subject to political control. The Praesidium of the Academy considers each suggested task: if it approves, the task is set out in 13 copies - 9 in German and 4 in Russian. These are then sent to the Central Office of Research and Technology (ZAFT), which co-ordinates all DDR research. ZAFT itself is subordinate to the State Planning Commission. Every research task can thus be scrutinised, and approved or rejected, by State political organs.

**10. Control of travel**

- (a) In July 1952, the Government Chancellery issued instructions to the Academy that they should only send to Western scientific conferences men who would take, at the meetings, an active stand against the BONN agreements (the "General-Kriegsvertrag"). Dr. NAAS realised how impossible this was and ignored the matter.
- (b) In October 1952, however, there was a meeting on this matter of international congresses. It was attended by:-

Charlotte THIEL - Academy of Science  
REETZ - ZK/SED  
FREESE - Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
JARCHOW - State Secretariat for Higher Education  
RICHTER - Government Chancellery.

On 27 Oct 52, Charlotte THIEL dictated a file note on this meeting, for the benefit of Dr NAAS. This note recorded the results of the meeting. It noted that the ZK had suggested that visits to conferences in the capitalistic lands should be limited as far as possible. Further, each [ ] contemplating sending representatives - should ask in each case about a conference:-

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- (a) who will be invited?
- (b) what social program [ ] is arranged?
- (c) if West German scientists will be present, what is their attitude to the BONN agreements?

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If the proposed congress is to be held abroad, the [ ] concerned should consider:-

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- (a) significance for science in the DDR?
- (b) who is issuing the invitations?
- (c) character of the conference?

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/4...

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- 4 -

- (d) who initiated the conference?
  - (e) how do they stand in regard to Soviet science?
  - (f) do they belong to any international scientific society?
  - (g) what is the character of any proposed DDR participants - general and political?
- etc.

These details are to be forwarded to the ZK/SED and to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs 8 weeks before the proposed conference. They are to be accompanied by the following documents in respect of each proposed member of a delegation or participant in a conference:-

- (a) personal particulars (in duplicate)
- (b) detailed life-history (duplicate)
- (c) decision of the relevant personnel section (duplicate)
- (d) short biography (quintuplicate)
- (e) invitations to the congress (duplicate).

# 11. Further control of international relations

- (a) Relations of DDR scientists with foreign bodies must be licensed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In addition, the Ministry of Finance may be involved if foreign exchange is needed. The government also recently set up a "Co-ordinating and Control office for Education, Science and Art" at BERLIN W.1, Wilhelmstr. 68 (Ministry of Education building). This also deals with the foreign relations of DDR scientists, including the co-ordination of the plans of the Academy and State Secretariat for Higher Education.

- (b) The difficulties experienced by a DDR scientist in attempting to join an international scientific society were well illustrated by Prof Rudolf MANSFELD's attempts to join the International Union of Plant Systematists (IUPS). Prof Dr phil R. MANSFELD is head of the Systematic Botany Dept. of the Institute for Research in Cultivated Plants. Prof MANSFELD wrote to the Academy on 22 Apr 52, asking for ~~13~~, or 11 West Marks, the membership fee of the IUPS, to be made available. This eventually produced a long letter to the Professor from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs -

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This asked the Professor about IUPS. The Professor was still deep in correspondence in Autumn 1952, and still without his ~~13~~.

/5...

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**D. Relations with the USSR (other than Soviet Control)**

12. As already mentioned, the SKK in Germany represents the USSR to the Academy. DDR scientists may also come into contact with Soviet scientists by visiting the Soviet Union or by receiving visiting Soviet scientists. Very few DDR scientists have visited the Soviet Union in the past three or four years. (Prof. Hans STUBBE, head of the Institute for Research on Cultivated Plants, GATERSLEBEN, is probably one of the few Academy natural scientists to have been there in the last years. The paper work for such a visit is immense, involving as it does the Soviet Diplomatic Mission in BERLIN, the DDR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Government Chancellery, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of State Security and the SKK.

13. Soviet scientists may also visit the DDR from time to time in official delegations. Thus (Prof. PETROWSKI, member of the Praesidium of the Academy of Science of the USSR and Rector of the LOMONOSOV University in MOSCOW visited the Academy in October 1952, with a political delegation. A Dr. NUSHDIN and others were in HALLE in February 1952 for a centenary celebration there. Such occasions seem to be more political than scientific.

14. Some Soviet scientists or technicians may come to the DDR in 1953 in connection with WTZ's program   WTZ = Office for Scientific and Technical Co-operation (with the USSR and Satellites). DDR Institutes suggest to WTZ (which is now part of ZAPT) subjects in which they would like help from the Soviet Union and if these are approved the USSR may agree to send specialists to the DDR. This has happened in one or two cases planned for 1953, but is not known previously.

50X1-HUM

15. DDR students are occasionally selected for courses in the USSR. In one case in 1952, a small number of East BERLIN students were to be selected. The conditions were that the students selected must

- i) be outstandingly good at their work
- ii) be exceptionally good in their standing with the Party
- iii) not have been officers in World War II
- iv) not have been POWs of the English or Americans
- v) not have any relations in the West.

**E. Miscellaneous**

**16. Political education**

- (a) Once a fortnight, in the Central Academy offices and in each large Academy Institute or group of Institutes, there is a Discussion Group. Often an outside lecturer comes and talks, usually for about 40 minutes. Recent subjects have included "Christianity and Socialism" (by the General Secretary of the Christian Democratic Union), "Liberalism and Marxism", "Historical Dialectical Materialism" by (Prof. Walther HOLLITSCHER and others. The lecture

/6....

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is followed by discussion. These groups are quite voluntary. If a scientist is apparently not interested, he will be politely invited in a friendly way to come along. Even opponents of the regime admit, however, that there is not even any real moral compulsion to attend these group meetings. Pamphlets on friendship with the USSR and such topics are displayed at these meetings: those interested take copies.

- (b) Once a week, however, there is more formal political education. Every Wednesday, from 8 to 10 a.m., all the lay employees of the Academy central offices have to attend classes in the Academy. Similar arrangements apply in the Academy Institutes: there, too, scientists are exempt. This schooling is under the direction of Richard POHL, who was formerly connected with the printing trade. Classes, of 20-30 people, are instructed in such subjects as "The Struggle for the Defence of Peace", "Rebuilding under the 5-Year Plan", "The Democratic Rebuilding of the State in the DDR". For employees of more limited intellectual capacity, like the Academy's drivers, this instruction is interspersed with German and Russian history, German geography and such topics.

50X1-HUM

17. Security

- (a) SSD. The State Security Service of the DDR (SSD) maintains at least one covert agent in the Academy HQ - Siegfried LANGHANS, the Personal Assistant to the Director. One of his main tasks was that of observation of Dr Alfons MAIKOWSKI, head of Administration of the Academy. LANGHANS stated in strict confidence in the Academy some months ago that MAIKOWSKI would not last long.

50X1-HUM

Dr Alfons MAIKOWSKI's dismissal from the Academy has just been confirmed by the Praesidium.

It may well be that many of the Academy's Institutes also have SSD agents; one identified in the Institute for Medicine and Biology, BERLIN-Buch, is (Dr phil) Käthe DORNBERGER.

- (b) Documents: A small number of documents graded SECRET are held in the Academy HQ in one of two safes: that in Siegfried LANGHANS' room or that in BUSCH's room (Party representative and Trade Union leader). These documents are liable to be checked from time to time by the SSD. A few weeks ago LANGHANS and NAAS were called out of bed in the middle of the night to come in to the Academy for a "routine" SSD check of their SECRET documents.

The SECRET documents deal with Academy research plans and with decisions made on the exchange of information between the DDR and the USSR or other Satellites.

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/7...

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18. The material circumstances of scientists

- (a) Scientists in the Academy and elsewhere in the DDR have many material advantages over the mass of the population. For example, all the Academy scientists receive Food Ration Card "A" and the special "In-Schein" (Intelligenz Karte), both of which entitle them to special food and other rations - e.g. meat, soap, sugar and fats. From time to time the Academy receives an allocation of some scarce material - for example, textiles of good quality: this is sold to Academy scientists only. Many scientists have houses which have been declared immune from requisitioning. The Academy helps with the education of children and loans for cars: many scientists have BMW cars (cost about 14,000 DM East). Pensions, of 70-80% salary, are payable at age 65.
- (b) The pay of scientists is very high. Prof Walter FRIEDRICH, President, for example, receives 92,000 DM East/year. The Director of an Institute now receives about 4-5,000 DM East/month.
- (c) In August 1952, the government of the DDR presented the Academy with a castle at KREMMEN (40 kms NW of BERLIN). It is to be used as a scientists' rest home.
- (d) This position in society does not, however, protect scientists from the laws of the DDR. Thus the eminent Professor Walter GROTRIAN, head of the Astrophysical Observatory, POTSDAM, was returning to POTSDAM from East, through West, BERLIN in October 1952 when he was stopped by a Peoples' Police control and asked to demonstrate what money he carried. He was found to have 8 West Marks. Possession of West Marks being an offence, the Professor was detained overnight and later fined 30 East Marks.

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19. Trade Unions

A Scientists Trade Union has recently been founded in the DDR. It is to affiliate to the World Federation of Scientific Workers. No further details are yet known.

20. Foreign Scientific literature

Procurement of foreign scientific literature in the DDR is under the control of the Central Office for Scientific Literature (ZWL). Western scientific and technical literature in every branch of knowledge appears to be freely available. The same cannot be said for Soviet literature. Only certain periodicals can be obtained in the DDR. Translation facilities are inadequate. At the Extraordinary Plenary Session of the Academy on 22/23rd January, 1953, there were several complaints from leading DDR scientists about the difficulties of obtaining access to Soviet technical literature.

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